# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HOME AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2674
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Disaster Preparedness
Ering Shri Ninong

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Arunachal Pradesh and other States in the country fall under Seismic Zone-V which is very sensitive category and intense disaster can occur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of disaster preparedness in Zone-V category States?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. Earthquake prone / seismic zones have been identified and mapped under the auspices of Bureau of Indian Standard [IS 1983 (part I); 2002]. The country is grouped into four seismic zones viz; zone-II, III, IV and V. Of these, zone V is seismically the most quake prone region, while zone-II is the least. The entire areas of Himalayan region from Jammu & Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh lies either in seismic zone IV or V. This region is prone to earthquakes and related natural calamities.

As per the National Disaster Management Policy, the primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the States. The preparedness measures with regard to seismic disaster is undertaken by the State Government concerned, as they are primarily responsible for management of natural disasters including preparedness in Zone −V category areas. Improvement of disaster preparedness system is a continuous and evolving process of governance. Disaster Management Act, 2005 provides for institutional mechanisms for drawing up
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and monitoring the implementation of the disaster management plans, which includes coordinated and prompt response to any disaster situation in the country and requires holistic measures by various wings of Government for prevention, mitigation and for minimizing the effects of disasters. The measures as taken by the Government of India and the State Governments are expected to improve the existing disaster management practices including the preparedness, mitigation and response mechanism to deal with natural disasters more effectively and efficiently in the country including seismic sensitive Zone-V category States/ areas.

The State Governments have taken various measures for the safety of people in the state. These include:

â€¢ Strengthening of state and district disaster management systems
â€¢ Preparation of State and district disaster management plans
â€¢ Activation of state and district level Emergency Operation Centre on 24 X 7 basis
â€¢ Coordination with forecasting agencies viz; IMD and ISRO etc. for providing seismic/ weather specific information
â€¢ Strengthening of communication and warning dissemination network
â€¢ Setting up of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF).
â€¢ Pre-positioning of National Disaster Response Force and SDRF at vulnerable locations
â€¢ Development of alternate routes for road communication
â€¢ Pre-positioning of necessary equipment at vulnerable locations for timely clearance of debris and
â€¢ Stocking of essential supplies medicines and others

Since, there are institutional mechanisms at the National and State level for effective management of natural disasters including taking necessary measures related to earthquake, flood control and any likely events at the time of natural calamities. To ensure construction of earthquake resistance building, the building bye laws have been put in place and the implementation of these is taken care of by the concerned regulatory authority of the State Government.
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